Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP JO US (KING HUSSEIN)

SUBJECT: HUSSEIN VISIT

- 1. CHIEF OF ROYAL COURT TOLD ME APRIL 16 THAT FOLLOWING HOUSTON MEDICAL CHECK-UP KING HAS DECIDED TO GO TO ORLANDO WHERE HE WILL MEET HIS CHILDREN FOR CENTRAL FLORIDA VISIT. CHILDREN WILL COME FROM LONDON IN COMPANY OF EX-KING CONSTANTINE.
- 2. KING PLANS DEPARTURE FROM U.S. ON/ABOUT MAY 10 VIA NEW ROYAL JORDANIAN AIRLINE 747 WHICH IS BEING DELIVERED FROM SEATTLE VIA ORLANDO TO PICK UP KING AND PARTY. KING PLANS TO RETURN DIRECTLY TO AMMAN.
- 3. CHIEF OF ROYAL COURT REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN FORM OF USE OF AIRCRAFT TO HELP MOVE BAGGAGE ROYAL PARTY WHILE IN U.S. AS YOU KNOW, KING PLANS TO USE HIS PERSONAL 727 WHICH IS BEING REPAIRED AND REWORKED IN U.S. CURRENTLY. AIRCRAFT HAS A LIMITED LIFT CAPACITY FOR LONGER HOPS AND PASSENGER BAGGAGE CANNOT ALL BE ACCOMMODATED WITH PRESENT SIZE PARTY TRAVELING WITH KING. IF U.S. UNABLE TO PROVIDE BACK-UP AIRCRAFT FOR BAGGAGE JORDANIANS SAY THEY CONFIDENTIAL

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ARE PREPARED TO RENT AIRCRAFT, IF NECESSARY.

4. COMMENT: SINCE U.S. NORMALLY HAS PROVIDED U.S. TRANSPORTATION IN PAST YEARS WE WONDER IF AIRCRAFT, SUCH AS C-130, MIGHT BE AVAILABLE TO MOVE PARTY BAGGAGE AS REQUESTED.

5. GIFTS: CONTRARY TO OUR UNDERSTANING UP TO THIS POINT, CHIEF OF ROYAL COURT SAID THAT KING WILL BE BRINGING GIFTS FOR PRESIDENT AND A FEW OTHER SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS. KNOWING U.S. GIFT RULES. AND WISHING ALSO TO MEET WHAT THEY KNOW ARE PRESENT U.S. ADMINISTRATION'S FEELINGS ABOUT POMP AND OSTENTATION, CHIEF OF ROYAL PROTOCOL HAS SELECTED A FEW ANCIENT COINS AND OIL LAMPS FROM AMONG THE HOLDINGS OF THE JORDANIAN DEPARTMENT OF ANTIQUITIES. THESE HAVE BEEN PREPARED AS GIFTS. THEY ARE UNIQUE AND IN HE SAYS ARE EXCELLENT CONDITION AND JORDANIANS FEEL THEY CONSTITUTE A GIFT FROM ONE COUNTRY TO THE OTHER WHICH CAN SYMBOLIZE MUCH OF JORDAN'S PAST UNIQUE ARCAEOLOGICAL HISTORY. WHILE I TRIED TO DISSUADE CHIEF OF ROYAL PROTOCOL FROM PROCEEDING AS HE HAD INDICATED, HE WOULD HEAR NONE OF IT.

6. IN ADDITION, HE TELLS ME THAT KING HAS
ASKED TO CANCEL SOME OF THE MORE OSTENTATIOUS
SOCIAL EVENTS PLANNED FOR HIM BY HIS EMBASSY
IN WASHINGTON. KING HAS ALSO DESIRED TO CANCEL
LARGE BLACK-TIE DINNER PLANNED IN WASHINGTON.
HOWEVER INVITATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN SENT
BY JORDANIAN EMBASSY AND THEREFORE HE WILL
CONTINUE, AGAINST HIS OWN WISHES, WITH THE EVENT
AS PLANNED. CHIEF OF ROYAL PROTOCOL INDICATES
KING WISHED ONLY TO HAVE A RETURN DINNER AT BLAIR HOUSE OF
ABOUT THE SAME SIZE AND CHARACTER AS THE WHITE HOUSE WORKING
DINNER SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 25.
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Message Attributes

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